

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 2, 2010

Fred P. Hochberg
President and Chairman of the Board
Export Import Bank of the United States
811 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20571

Dear Chairman Hochberg:

We are writing to urge you to utilize all authorities and resources of the Export-Import Bank to meet the credit and financing needs of U.S. exporters, particularly small and medium-sized manufacturers. As you know, the poor condition of the economy has made ordinary commercial credit difficult to obtain in order to continue operations and preserve jobs for many companies.

We are particularly concerned about domestic manufacturers that maintain export operations, which have been disproportionately affected by the economic downturn. For example, the domestic textile industry has lost more than 11 percent of its employees since December 2008.

The contraction in the domestic export sector has been caused in part by an inadequate supply of financing and credit for export opportunities. Too many domestic exporters and manufacturers are suffering shortfalls of credit, credit guarantees, and working capital.

We believe the Export-Import Bank can play an integral role in ensuring that all industries have access to adequate financing and credit guarantees. Doing so will facilitate export business. We request that you provide us with information on the role the Export-Import Bank is playing in aiding U.S. industry in its export business and whether the bank needs additional authority to develop effective programs to assist the industry during the economic downturn.

We are concerned due to several reports from domestic manufacturers which indicate that the Export-Import Bank does not offer affordable, effective financing and credit guarantee options to the industry. It is important that the efforts we undertake in the U.S. Congress complement the offerings of the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Thank you for your attention to the goal of ensuring that American businesses can access the financing they need to continue to export American products.

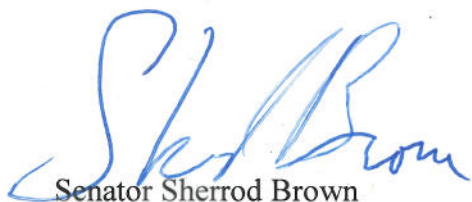
Respectfully,



Senator John Kerry



Senator Kay Hagan

A stylized, cursive signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sh Brown'.

Senator Sherrod Brown

A bold, cursive signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Burr'.

Senator Richard Burr

A cursive signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Saxby Chambliss'.

Senator Saxby Chambliss

A cursive signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thad Cochran'.

Senator Thad Cochran

A cursive signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Blanche L. Lincoln'.

Senator Blanche Lincoln

A cursive signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Johnny Isakson'.

Senator Johnny Isakson

A cursive signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Pryor'.

Senator Mark Pryor

A cursive signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Vitter'.

Senator David Vitter